

WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, DC

ORDER NO. 4856

IN THE MATTER OF:

Served May 22, 1996

Proposed Rulemaking Amending RULES }
OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE AND }
REGULATIONS, REGULATION NOS. 51, }
55 and 63 }

Case No. MP-96-21

This rulemaking was initiated in Order No. 4786, served March 12, 1996, for the purpose of receiving comments on proposed changes to the Commission's regulations. As explained in Order No. 4786, if adopted, the proposed amendments would prohibit WMATC carriers from holding themselves out as being capable of rendering life support service. Carriers would still be required to provide the level of passenger aid and assistance expected of any common carrier. No carrier would be subject to sanction, for example, if one of its employees attempted to aid a heart-attack victim. However, no carrier could solicit business by claiming it possessed the capability to render life support service of a character customarily associated with ambulance service.

Order No. 4786 established a sixty-day comment period. Only one comment was received. The Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) filed a comment in support of the proposed amendments. Accordingly, the proposed amendments shall be adopted for the reasons stated in Order No. 4786.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED:

1. That Commission Regulation No. 51 is amended by adding the following:

51-12. Life support service means any service rendered for the purpose of sustaining life, including but not limited to emergency first aid and manual cardiopulmonary resuscitation procedures, administration of oxygen, intravenous and electrocardiopulmonary resuscitation, cardiac monitoring, cardiac defibrillation, advanced airway management, intravenous therapy, administration of drugs and other medicinal preparations, and administration of intravenous fluids.

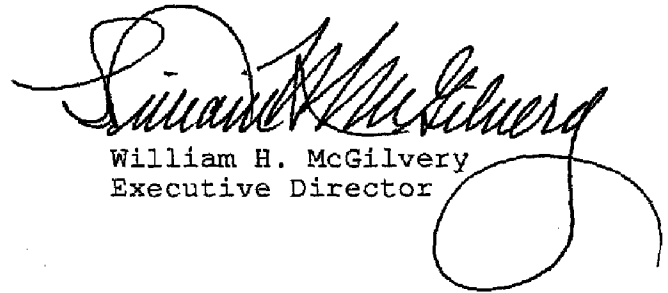
2. That Commission Regulation No. 55 is amended by adding the following:

55-09. No tariff may contain a rate, rule or regulation for life support service. Such service may not be provided under a WMATC tariff.

3. That Commission Regulation No. 63 is amended by adding the following:

63-05. No carrier may hold itself out to the public as being capable of rendering life support service.

BY DIRECTION OF THE COMMISSION; COMMISSIONERS ALEXANDER AND LIGON:



William H. McGilvery
Executive Director